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EYES ONLY

27 Sep 67

Drex:

Subject: Updating of the infamous "Record of Achievements"---
no one is quite clear where we stand on this one.

I've reminded all involved (Bearman, [] Carver, Allen) that a second edition is expected by the end of the month (Friday), and analysts have been told to prepare new statements and figures. But we all feel there are some important questions to be decided before we [] produce. No higher authority has ever laid this one on formally or clarified just what is wanted in terms of coverage, format, detail, graphics, etc. The assumption is that it will be another version of the same, but should it?

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[] unwilling to produce another one-sided list of statements. He wants (intends) to prepare both the pros and the cons and let someone up the line take the rap [] by selecting out the good from the bad and putting [] out a paper in his own name. Bearman [] are equally reluctant and confused. SAVA is going ahead with charts, which inevitably will be the same ones being fabricated for the propaganda show.

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I took the opportunity of Proctor's report to Smith yesterday to raise this question before both of them, suggesting that perhaps the principals had better get together and agree on how to proceed. I told them Carver was relating this paper to his talks downtown on information processing (the 4 o'clock meeting), and was expecting the monthly exercise to be affected by what was decided at this session.

No one has carried the matter any further as of noon today. In passing this morning I mentioned it again to Proctor, and suggested that in view of the way Carver's operation was developing perhaps it would be best to let him take responsibility for the whole project, not merely the graphics. Obviously what the President is mainly interested in is an updating of the figures on operations in the South, and this is pretty much SAVA's department. All the general statements, political and military, have already been said and shouldn't [] be repeated.

More important, Carver's ambitions to be "the fount of all information" for [] Co. presents us, it seems to me, with a golden opportunity to dissociate ourselves from the whole sorry business. I think that the DDI would be doing a very great service to himself and to his production offices if he managed to [] palm this particular project off on [] SAVA. If he wants to be the purveyor of this sort of "information," let him have it.

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This is not trying to sluff off an unwelcome chore. This is an attempt to keep DDI production unpolluted. It would not only help ~~we~~ protect our mission and reputation but would go a long way toward remedying the internal morale problem if we could tell OCI and OER analysts that it is ~~we~~ their job to produce intelligence and SAVA's job to produce anything else.

Now of course the DDI may be more interested in "ball control" than we are. He after all took this assignment under his wing in the beginning. Much has happened since then, however, and he is fully aware of the implications.

Proctor sees some merit in transferring this ticket to SAVA; his only question, in the little time we talked this morning, was whether SAVA could do it. Since the requirement now is mostly for revised figures and SAVA is already deeply engaged in statistical juggling, I see little problem on this score.

He suggested you (and/or we) take this to RJS and present the problem in these terms as early as possible. If he agrees ~~we~~ he ~~they~~ could negotiate ~~for a new arrangement~~ a new arrangement with Carver.



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